jection to the new Hypotheſis of the Generation of Animals from Animalcula in Semine Maſculino. *By Dr.* Martin Liſter, *Fellow of the Colledge of Phyſicians and Royal Society.*

V. *An Abſtract with ſome Reflections on a new Account of* Eaſt-India *and* Perſia, *in Eight Letters, being Nine Years Travels, begun* 1672. *and finiſhed* 1681, &c. *By* John Fryer, *M. D.* Cantabrig. *and Fellow of the Royal Society. Printed for* R. Chiſwel *at the* Roſe *and* Crown *in St.* Paul's *Church-Yard.* 1698.

I. *Part of a Letter from* Ralph Thoresby, *Eſq; F. R. S. to* John Evelyn, *Eſq; F. R. S. concerning ſome* Roman Antiquities *lately found in* Yorkſhire.

SIX Months ago I ſent to Dr. *Liſter* a large Account of the Texture and Figure of an old *Roman Shield* of the *Parma* Kind, that I had then newly procured; I have ſince got another Curioſity relating to their *Plaſticks*, 'tis part of the Bottom (which conſiſted of ſeveral ſuch Pieces for the Conveniency of Baking) of an old *Roman Coffin*, that was lately dug up in their Burying-Place out of *Boutham-Bar* at *York*, (whence I had the Bricks and Urns mentioned in the laſt *November* Tranſactions) 'tis of the Red Clay but not ſo fine as the Urns, having a greater Quantity of courſe Sand wrought in with the Clay; as to the Form (which is entire as it was at firſt moulded) 'tis Fourteen Inches and an half long, and about

about Eleven broad at the narrower End, and nigh Twelve and an half at the broader; this was the loweſt part, for the Feet and the reſt were proportionably broader till it came to the Shoulders; 'tis an Inch thick beſides the Ledges, which are One broad and Two thick, and extend from the bottom of either ſide to within Three Inches of the top, where 'tis wholly flat, and ſomewhat thinner for the next to lye upon it, which ſeveral Parts were, thus joyn'd together by ſome Pin, I preſume, for at the end of each Tile is a Hole that wou'd receive a common Slate-Pin, theſe Edges are wrought a little hollow, to receive the Sides, I ſuppoſe, and at the Feet are Two contrary Notches to faſten the End-piece, this Bottom I ſhould conclude to have conſiſted ſtrictly of Eight ſuch Parts, from a like Character 8 impreſt upon the Clay by the *Sandapilarius*'s Finger before its Baking, but that I ſomewhat doubt whether *Numeral Figures* be of that Antiquity in theſe *European* Parts, tho' I ſee no reaſon to conclude that becauſe the *Romans* uſed the *Numeral Letters* upon their more durable Monuments, that they were utterly Strangers to theſe Figures, which (notwithſtanding the common Opinion of their Novelty here) the learned Dr. *Wallis* thinks as old at leaſt, as the Times of *Hermannus Contractus*, *An. Dom.* 1050. and produces an unexceptionable Teſtimony of their Uſe here in *England An.* 1133. (*Philoſoph. Tranſact.* Numb. 154.) I got alſo ſome Scars of broken Urns, dug up in Mr. *Giles*'s Garden, which are of the fineſt blew Clay I have ſeen, with which was found a *Roman Shuttle*, about Three Inches and an half long, but not one broad in the very middle, the hollow for the *Licium* being but one fourth of an Inch in the broadeſt Place, ſhews that it was either for Silk or very fine Linnen, perhaps their *Asbeſtinum* or Incombuſtible Winding-Sheets. I have alſo lately procur'd a *Roman Pottle* from *Aldbrough*,

Brough, which is of the Red Clay, but much courſer than the *York* Urns: I was well pleaſed to find it whole, that I might obſerve the difference betwixt their *Congius* (of which I take this to be ſtrictly the half) and our *Gallon*, and this comes the nigheſt Mr. *Graves*'s Computation, containing Three Pints and an half the *Wincheſter* Meaſure.

The laſt Week I received a valuable Preſent of Two and Twenty old *Roman Coins*, from Mr. *Townely* of *Townely*, which were lately found in the Pariſh of *Burnley* in *Lancaſhire*, which are the more acceptable, becauſe many of them are *Conſular*, or Family Coins, one of them, *viz. Q. Caſſius*, was 162 Years *ante Chriſtum* according to *Goltzius*'s Method, being ſtrictly the ſame he places *An. Urb. Cond.* 589.

That they were the ancient *Roman Denarii*, and Coin'd before the Emperors Times (notwithſtanding the contrary Sentiments of ſome Learned Men) I think is evident, becauſe there is moſtly, inſtead of the Emperor's Head, the antick Form of the *Caput Urbis*, without Inſcription, beſides, *Tacitus* calls theſe *Bigati* and *Quadrigati*, *pecuniam veterem ac diu notam:* Again others have upon them ROMA, which I find not uſed by any of the Emperors, (except thoſe ſmall Pieces upon the Tranſlation of the Empire to *Conſtantinople*) again, the Letters in theſe are often interwoven, as particularly V-L in one I have of *L. Valerius Flaccus* A.V.C. CDXCII. which according to *Goltzius*, is the Seventh Year after the *Romans* firſt ſtampt Silver Monies; and to mention no more, many are of the *Serrato's* filed in ſmall Notches round the Edge, of which Sort I have of *Scipio Aſiaticus*, *&c.* and other *Conſular* Pieces. but never ſaw any of a later Date.